

President's Cup  
cricket match  
2pm Sunday  
3<sup>rd</sup> August  
Recreation ground

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# THE LINTON NEWS

www.linton.info. e-mail lneditor@linton.info

August  
2008

Vol. 22 N° 5

Publication Date  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August

E & E PLUMRIDGE

Design & Print

41 High Street

Linton

01223 891407

## A real sense of peace and achievement as Kathy finally becomes a deacon



A very happy and contented Kathy after her ordination

Picture by Mike Bishop

**T**HE great day finally arrived for Kathy Bishop when, on 28<sup>th</sup> June at Ely Cathedral, she reached her goal and was ordained a deacon.

On the evening before she had been nervous at the enormity of the occasion, but after morning prayer, breakfast, and a rehearsal, she met the Bishop for the legalities and "allowed it all to unfold".

At 3pm she robed, and the ceremony for eight deacons and 10 priests took place. Kathy said: "I felt a real sense of peace and achievement and everyone who had been touched along the way were also affected."

Members of the priesthood, friends and family, including her sister from Oban, were with her, and Kathy later had a surprise phone call from an aunt from Sunderland to say that she had been present at the ceremony but had left early to travel home.

The following day Kathy took part in the parish Eucharist at Dullingham (one of her six parishes) and met some of her new parishioners. Then came a trip to York with her husband and daughter which gave her some welcome breathing space.

Kathy has had to make wardrobe space for the vestments which signify her new life and is looking forward to everything it will bring.

Who knows how far she can go – just look at her surname!

LNT



Kathy celebrates with some friends afterwards

Picture by Craig Burton

## And Lesley becomes a priest

**S**ATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> June was a momentous day too for someone else in the village – the day that Lesley Gore became a priest, following on from the ordination of the deacons.

Lesley started her training a few years before Kathy, in 2005. After several years as a reader (a licensed lay minister) at St Mary's, Lesley went to be the curate at St John's in Hills Road, Cambridge where she will continue her ministry.

When she was very young Lesley assumed she would become a teaching missionary. For a brief time at university she considered becoming a nun but decided on teaching instead. However, when readers were needed at St Mary's, Lesley realised that this was where her path lay, followed by a revelation that her true calling was to be a priest.

On the day of the ordination all those who had encouraged Lesley along the way were there, including some toddlers from her church group who surprised her just inside the cathedral. She said: "It was an extraordinary experience having the bishop's hands laid upon my head and I wasn't even aware of my usually painful knees as I knelt." She remembers a feeling of peace and the sight of the bishop's smiling eyes as he helped her up.

The next day she was thrown in at the deep end by celebrating morning service and later chanting at a choral evening, but life as a priest is not all hard work as the service was followed by Pimm's on the lawn;



Such joy: Lesley after the ceremony

Picture by David Wyatt

no doubt the first of many such contrasts in her exciting new life.

LNT

## Vegetable vandals strike

IT seems that Linton, like the rest of the country, has its share of nasty and heartless people.

This time their victims are the children of the Chestnut playgroup.

After many hours of planting, watering and weeding, the children were looking forward to tasting the apples and cherries they had been growing, and to making Halloween lanterns from their very own pumpkins from their garden.

However, I am sad to report that over the past few weeks, the children have been very upset to find the



apples and cherries have all been picked and the baby pumpkins have gone astray.

None of what has been taken was ripe enough to eat,

so it looks to be a sheer act of nastiness and vandalism.

Hopefully, the people responsible will read this and realise that what may just have been a bit of fun for them has actually ruined the great time the children at the playgroup would have had when the fruit and vegetables were ready to pick.

Let's just hope that when the children return in September, the fruit and vegetables that were there at the end of the summer term will still be there waiting for them.

Harriet Braithwaite  
894780

### A1307 action

A NEW speed camera, reduced speed limits and warning signs are part of a range of measures announced by highways executives to try to halt the death toll on the A1307.

The scheme is being fast-tracked, and is being accompanied by a driver education programme, following the recent fatal accident in which a father and his two teenage sons died.

LNT

### Last call for the directory

*THIS is positively your last chance to get an entry in the Linton Directory. If you have a business, faculty, service, club or society that you wish to tell the people of Linton about, the directory is the place to do it.*

*What you need to do is provide the name and description of the service you're providing, an address, phone number and an e-mail address, and details of a website, opening times and meeting place and times (if relevant).*

*The deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> August. Miss that and miss out on what will be a great little publication. Contact or email Andrew Clark at [webmaster@linton.info](mailto:webmaster@linton.info)*

## THOUGHTS FROM THE GRANTA RANTA

IN 1988, the Government passed a law to make it illegal to park on grass verges, but they never actually brought it into force. Then in 1991 they scrapped it. Not much point of going to the trouble of passing it in the first place you might think.

A lot of Lintonians must wish such a law was in force today. Don't you get fed up seeing bits of our grass verges chewed up by tyre tracks? Don't you get irritated when the men cutting the grass have to miss out the bits with parked cars? Parking on grass verges is plain anti-social. It's the adult equivalent of teenagers in a group blocking the footway. It also makes it difficult to get youngsters to behave more responsibly when they see their so-called elders and betters behaving like this.

Just as juvenile antisocial behaviour can escalate, so too with adults. Once you start parking on the grass verge, you start losing respect for your local environment and your fellow residents.

So what happens next? People start to park on the pavement. Parents with push chairs have to go out into the gutter. People in wheelchairs have to be pushed out into the road.

After that? People begin to bump up on the pavement whenever it suits them. Before the one-way system, large vehicles sometimes had no choice in the narrow part of the High Street, and very occasionally there may be a major blockage, which means there's no alternative. But lots of people now do it as matter of course, just to save a second or two. Kerbs eventually get broken; potholes develop where tyres bounce back down on to the road again. It makes the place look a mess and wastes our council tax, when it could be used for lots of useful public services.

Then people start driving along lengthy sections of the pavements "because it saves me time." A few weeks ago the car in front of me roared up the High Street, using the pavement most of the way from Horn Lane to the Greenhill. I waited until I could get up the road without going on the pavement. By the time I got to Addenbrooke's, guess who was right in front of me?

Once people ignore road traffic common sense, their behaviour gets worse, and its possible consequences become more serious. One day, a parent might open the front door of their house on the High Street to push a push-chair out, only to see a car travelling along the pavement slam into it. The consequences of that driver's behaviour will be far more serious than just antisocial.

## Take up a new challenge

YOU will probably already know that Linton and Sawston village colleges joined together in 2003 to form the Broad-

en-  
diminishing funding. This provision continues to grow and we have an exciting range of courses to

It's never too late to learn something new: a student enjoys a class in the arts and craft course



Picture submitted by Sue King

ing Education (BE) partnership to share the provision of adult education in the light of

offer for 2008/09. Arts and crafts, including life drawing, dressmaking, upholstery and

## PLODDING ALONG ... An update on police matters

### Neighbourhood policing Operation Promenade

THE fourth panel meeting of the Linton Neighbourhood policing area took place on 24<sup>th</sup> June at Townley Hall, Fulbourn. The meeting was opened by John Fuller, the police divisional community engagement manager.

Notes from the previous meeting were read, before Inspector Chris Savage was introduced. It was announced that Paul Ormerod has recently taken up the post of duty inspector in Cambridge.

Sergeant Mark Kathro began explaining the actions taken following the previous meeting, with some enthusiastic interjections from the floor.

He told villagers about the high visibility patrols in the area – a measure to combat the spate of distraction burglaries. Officers had also visited many premises (domestic and business) thought at risk of burglary, to offer practical advice to avoid becoming a victim.

Sgt Kathro, in response to a question from the floor, said no arrests had been made in connection with this particular series of crimes.

With specific respect to Linton, it was reported that the High Street and recreation ground remained 'hot spots,' with instances of criminal damage and alcohol seizures from under-age drinkers.

Shopkeepers have been reminded of their duty to check identification before

sales of alcohol. One resident said they were adhering to this, but the purchases were still finding their way into the hands of under 18s. Are shopkeepers at risk of losing their licences if they knowingly sell alcohol destined for the underaged?

Issues relating to residents speeding through the village and ignoring parking restrictions were also raised. It was announced that patrols would be carried out in order to tackle this.

The A1307 was again discussed. It was pointed out that drivers are still speeding along this road. Unfortunately, new officers and PCSOs had not yet been trained in the use of speed guns. A 'traffic summit' is due to take place in July, involving several parish councils.

Drawing the meeting to a close, it was agreed that with the onset of summer, patrols were needed to curb the seasonal increase in antisocial behaviour. Owners of horses were also asked to be on the lookout as there had been a case of an animal being attacked.

Households with heating oil tanks in their gardens were recommended to secure them following a spate of recent thefts.

Villagers wishing to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in their area can contact the police for help in organising this.

Cambridgeshire Police, 0845 45645

I THOUGHT I would write to you all to let you know what we have been doing in the Community Safety Unit at Parkside police station.

As you know, under Operation Promenade we are continuing to visit sheltered schemes and other residential areas during their coffee mornings to raise awareness about distraction burglary and rogue trading. Recently invitations to the coffee mornings have been received from Fulbourn, Bourn, Arrington and Grantchester.

We have also visited Church Close, Little Abington and Marshall's Close, Teversham to register the areas as 'No Cold Calling' zones to prevent traders turning up unannounced and trying to sell goods at the door.

The feedback has been very positive. In addition to the 'No Cold Calling' signs, we also marked personal property in the homes with Smartwater.

This is a liquid forensic coding system made with a non-hazardous coded mix of chemicals in a water-based solution. It is similar to DNA profiling; each unique solution can be identified and authenticated.

Each item is marked with the solution and once dry, it is virtually impossible to remove. Even a tiny trace can be analysed for evidence.

Cambridgeshire constabulary also organised the first cross-border conference on bogus callers. The programme was aimed at improving the way we work and collaborating across borders on prevention and enforcement activity.

Delegates represented a wide spread of partner agencies including Trading Standards, Neighbourhood Watch and Age Concern. As the event was so well received, it was agreed something similar should be held regularly to ensure 'best practice' is achieved at all times.

Cambridgeshire police and Trading Standards are thrilled that they have now registered their 50<sup>th</sup> trader on to the Cambridgeshire county council's registered trader scheme.

We would always advise residents not to use traders who cold call but to use one who is registered. Anyone over 60 can use this scheme. Call your local Age Concern (01354 696650) for details.

May I just finish by reminding you that we are seeing a spate of walk-in thefts due to doors and windows being left open in the warmer weather. Items taken have included purses, wallets, mobile phones and car keys. So please try not to leave handbags, wallets and car keys lying around just inside the door.

Hilary Conner, Parkside police station

oriental watercolours are just some of the subjects on offer.

If languages appeal, then in addition to French, Spanish and Italian, we also have Japanese, Latin and ESOL (English for speakers of other languages). Other courses include computing, employment skills, GCSEs, health, fitness and well-being, music and dance and many more subjects, also Saturday schools.

There are several new courses, including interior design, colour and style, positive parenting, aromatherapy (mater-

nity), baby massage, ballroom dancing and modern dance for pleasure.

Look out for the BE Partnership adult education brochure coming through your door in early August. Our office will be open to take enrolments from 18<sup>th</sup> August and to answer any queries regarding courses. Please call 712424 or email: sking@sawstonvc.org from this date.

We look forward to welcoming you at one of the colleges this autumn.

Sue King

## Keep an eye out, there are thieves about

THERE have been several distraction burglaries in this area so please take the following steps to ensure you are not one of the unlucky victims:

- Make sure that your windows and doors are shut and locked at all times
- Do not advertise that you are away – most burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves. In two out of 10 burglaries, they don't even have to use force
- If you require any crime prevention advice, please call Parkside police station on 0845 4564564 to speak to the local neighbourhood team.
- If you see anything suspicious, phone 999.

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**Readers write ... Readers write**

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters are on Page 8. Please note: all letters for publication must be supplied with a full name and address to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited.

**OUR THANKS**

**Save the Children fun day**

Dear Editor

The very enjoyable event held on 21<sup>st</sup> June at Linton House, by the great kindness of Dr and Mrs Bertram, was expected to raise several hundred pounds, but we were overjoyed by the result: £898 net.

Our next invitation targets children aged five and over (younger ones also welcome to join in). It is a fun day and sponsored walk in the park at Carlton, Cambridge on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September starting at 11am.

Entrance is £3.50 per child including a picnic lunch, and there will be refreshments for sale, stalls and fun activities. Tickets to be bought in advance, and sponsorship forms, if required, from Edith Osborn 291375, Fiona Rosenberg 01638 508055, Maggie Cumpsley 01638 507191 or Anna Newton 891770.  
Anna Newton

Dear Editor

The family of Corrie Smith, who passed away peacefully aged 93 at Symonds House on 30<sup>th</sup> June, would like to thank all those who sent kind messages of sympathy. A memorial service at St Mary's took place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Robert (Bob) Smith 07768 253888

**Wind farms latest**

THE latest news about the wind farms is that there is no news! The Wadlow Wind Farm appeal, which should have taken place in the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> July, has been postponed and there is no future date set yet.

The planning application for the Linton wind farm has still not progressed and there is no date set for this either.

John Batchelor believes that both Renewable Energy Systems Ltd and Enertrag UK Ltd are waiting for the the Government to complete its policies review regarding renewable fuel.

Also, my apologies. I omitted to report in last month's paper that the responses which I received to the letter about the noise from the turbines in the June issue of the Linton News were in support of wind farms.

Editor

**Too good for jumble...**

A MAHOGANY dining table with six chairs, including two carvers, are on offer this month with the Philips hostess trolley with serving dishes and warming cupboard, a free-standing wooden school desk with lift up lid, a Samsung fax machine/photocopier, a black leather-look office swivel chair and a shopper bike – no street cred but nippy.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please contact:

Kate France 891602  
or email katefrance@linton48.freemove.co.uk

**Correction**

OUR apologies to Kate Wright for getting some details wrong in her article in last month's Linton News.

Kate's telephone numbers are as follows: 893633 or 07854 384641 and her e-mail address is:k8w@tesco.net

**How to stop stress being a killer**



ON a lovely hot summer evening in July, Ann Simpkin welcomed members and two visitors, Jenny Johnson and Joy Edwards. Brenda Smith read the previous month's minutes and these were approved.

Guidelines were received for putting forward resolutions for next year's AGM in London. A reply had been received from the parish council re the seat at Swan Bridge bus stop; this will only be done if and when improvements are carried out to the shelter. Brenda has replied asking when this will happen, as we are concerned about the general impression this gives of the village, and the elderly would dearly like something to rest on awaiting the often late buses.

Ann Simpkin and June Bunn attended the WI conference in Liverpool; June gave an account of the proceedings. They both came home with an oak tree sapling, as did all 4,300 who attended. These are for planting in the members' villages.

Vic Botterell was our speaker on 'How to survive beyond nine to five'. Retiring from the police after 30 years, he took the opportunity to look into why some police officers only live for five years after early retirement. His previous work in the force involved training and specialising in human behaviour.

Stress appeared to be the main cause of death and he outlined ways to overcome this. Coping mechanisms and cures include being able to recognise the danger signals, having goals, listening to music, looking forward and telling your partner and loved ones you love them every day. After all this, stress should be a thing of the past – an interesting and informative talk.

In August our meeting is open to everyone featuring an archive film *Bombs at teatime*. Do come and join us at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August in the village hall, and in September we will be welcoming Alison Horsley from the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Tricia Lewis



An unusual water feature in the grounds of Elton Hall

Picture by Bel Griffiths

Bel Griffiths reports on the Elton Hall visit: A guided tour of the house which had been in the Proby family since 1660 was a privilege and we saw a mixture of styles reflecting the tastes of several generations. Paintings by Millais, Gainsborough, Constable and Reynolds were among the treasures and the library is one of the finest in private hands. The garden was delightful with some unique aspects such as the water feature, orangery and gothic arbour. The box parterre and neatly clipped yews enhanced the hall. To the delight of gardeners, there was a well-stocked garden centre and the coach returned rather fuller than when it arrived.

**LINTON DIARY**

To guarantee entry into this diary please ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office.

Details of items in bold type may be found elsewhere in this edition. You may also send an email with your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info

**WEEKLY**

- Junior badminton, 10am-12noon Sundays SC
- Adult tennis coaching, Sundays (call 07791 150141) SC
- Pilates, 10 and 11.15am Mondays VH
- Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays VH
- Men's all-age keep fit club, 8pm Mondays SC
- Ladies' netball, 7-9pm Mondays SC
- Linton Granta toddlers, 10am Tuesdays and Thursdays term time LVC
- Hadstock toddler group, 2-3.30pm Tuesdays term time Hadstock VH
- Ladies' football, 7-8pm Tuesdays LVC
- Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays CC
- Tae Kwon Do, 6-8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays SC
- Ladies' badminton, 8-10pm Tuesdays SC
- IT club, 7pm Tuesdays CC
- Yoga, 7.30pm Tuesdays term time Hildersham VH
- Yoga, 1-2.45pm Wednesdays term time VH
- Bowling roll-ups, 2pm Wednesdays Pavilion
- Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays VH
- Men's keep fit club, 8pm Wednesdays SC
- Linton theatre workshop, Wednesdays (call 892076)
- Tots-in-tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time VH
- Music Matters, 9.45am & 11am Thursdays VH
- LVC badminton club, 8-10pm Thursdays SC
- Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH
- Rhyme'n'rhymn tots music group, Fridays 10.30 & 1.30 term time URC Hall
- Junior basketball, 6-7pm Fridays SC
- Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC
- Adult tap dancing, 7.15-8pm Fridays term time VH
- Granta badminton club, 8-10pm Fridays SC

**AUGUST**

- 2 Farmers' market, 9.30am LVC
- 2 Gardening club show, 2.30pm VH
- 3 President's cup cricket match, 2pm RG
- 4-8 Summer theatre workshop, 9.30am-5.30pm LVC
- 4 Camera club, 7.15pm CC
- 5 WI, 7.30pm VH
- 6 Reading group, 8pm Dog and Duck
- 7 Luncheon club, 12.15pm The Crown
- 7 Granta playgroup 'play in the park', 11am-1pm RG
- 7 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
- 12 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands
- 13 Granta playgroup 'play in the park', 11am-1pm RG
- 20 CAMTAD hearing help, 9am-12noon HC
- 24 Camera club, 8.30am Coles Lane car park
- 31 Physical freedom, 10am-4pm Chilford Hall
- 31 Deadline for Linton Directory entry

**SEPTEMBER**

- 1 Camera club, 9.30am Coles Lane car park
- 2 WI, 7.30pm VH
- 4 Luncheon club, 12.15pm The Crown
- 4 Parish council meeting, 8pm CC
- 6 Farmers' market, 9.30am LVC
- 6 Friends of St Mary's lunch, 12noon Chalklands
- 6 Boot sale/table top, 1pm Symonds House
- 6-7 Steam rally, from 10am Haddenham
- 13 Team read ceremony, 10am-12noon Library

KEY: CC Cathodeon Centre, HC Health Centre, LVC Linton Village College, RG Recreation Ground, SC Sports Centre, URC United Reform Church, VH Village Hall.

Refuse collection: 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1<sup>st</sup> September.  
Recycling collection: 11<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> July.

Library times: Monday Closed; Tuesday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm; Wednesday 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Thursday Closed; Friday 10.30am-1pm, 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm; Saturday 10am-12noon.

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# Looking back 20 years ... and 270 miles

TWENTY years ago this month, a group of young explorers set off on an adventure to discover the true meaning of the phrase 'a long walk'.

The group, aged 15 to 18 years, were all members of the ABLE venture scout unit (ABLE stood for Abington, Balsham, Linton et cetera) based in Linton.

Their mission was to take on the might of the Pennine Way, one of the toughest walks in the British Isles. At 270 miles, it is also one of the longest.

The eight boys and one girl began their trek in the popular village of Edale in the Peak district. Although training had been undertaken, the first leg quickly became one of the hardest as scorching sunshine made the going tough.

The appropriately-named Jacob's Ladder was followed by the Kinder Scout plateau, at 2088ft the highest point in the Peaks.

Much of the rest of that day's walk was through knee-deep peat bog so Crowden youth hostel at the end of those first 14 miles was a welcome relief.

On the second day, the group



The group on the steps of one of the youth hostels

Picture supplied by Owen Barnicoat

left Derbyshire to walk briefly into Cheshire and then Yorkshire – the pace had already quickened as the terrain was friendlier and some had posted several excess items from their rucksacks back home.

Day three was the longest so far; 24 miles across hills and moors to the next youth hostel.

Driving rain meant the next two days were soggy affairs as the group made their way towards the Calder valley. Stoodley Pike, a 120ft monument

commemorating the Peace of Ghent and the abdication of Napoleon, was passed as they neared Hebden Bridge.

Then, it was up on to the high moors to seek out Top Withens, believed to be the inspiration for the Earnshaw home in *Wuthering Heights*. Now derelict, the place still evoked a strong sense of historical importance.

Batteries were recharged at Haworth youth hostel, the drying room seeing good service as boots, clothes and rucksacks

were aired, and the prospect of bigger hills and deeper valleys loomed large.

Entering the Yorkshire Dales, familiar to the entire group after numerous walking and caving weekends, the weather improved and some spectacular scenery could be viewed in all its glory. The magnificent limestone natural amphitheatre of Malham Cove shone in the sunshine. The area is home to peregrine falcons and one of the biggest limestone 'pavements' in England.

After scaling the cove and making the tricky crossing of the pavement, the imposing sight of Pen-y-ghent rose in front of the walkers. The notoriously steep southern face is challenging at the best of times, so aching limbs were dragged to the summit.

Thankfully, the descent is comparatively gentle, and the group spent the night at Fawber Farm near Horton-in-Ribblesdale with enough energy to discuss that day's trek.

A rest day was taken at Keld, in the beautiful Swaledale.

Part two next month



## Chef's corner with Joel

*I THOUGHT a nice summery barbecue recipe would be a change for this month, but cooking a barbecue in wellies and a raincoat seems a little tedious.*

*So a light summer dish with an al fresco feel to it would be the right thing to cook whatever the weather.*

### Thai salmon and crab fishcakes with a crispy noodle salad

Take one tail end of fresh salmon and the same of white fish (haddock or cod).

Place the fish on a baking sheet with a small diced onion, half a teaspoon of crushed garlic and a pinch of black pepper. Bake in a moderate oven 175C/350F/gas 3-4 for about 15 minutes.

Remove the fish and allow it to cool in a large bowl. At this stage, add 150g/5oz of either fresh crab meat or a small tin of crab meat.

Then add a good handful of chopped coriander and a diced cooked pepper. (Tinned peppers are ideal for this job.)

Add a tablespoon of Thai sweet chilli sauce. Gently fork all these ingredients together with a whole egg and two tablespoons of breadcrumbs.

The mixture can now be patted into the size that you require (squash ball size for a starter or scotch egg size for a main, whichever you like.)

These can go back in the oven for a further 10-15 minutes or even the microwave for a while (different power microwaves have different cooking times, so consult your instructions).

Meanwhile "back in the kitchen", take a carrot and cut it into matchsticks, and half a red pepper, half a courgette, four baby corns, a quarter of a leek and eight mushrooms. All the vegetables should be cut the same way as the carrot. Stir fry all of these vegetables, keeping them crunchy (this will only take about two minutes in a hot wok).

Add to the vegetables approx. 300g/10-12oz of ready cooked noodles stirring gently, a good handful of bean sprouts and two tomatoes cut into four. Now finish with the zest and juice of a lime, a good handful of coriander, a tablespoon of sweet chilli sauce and a splash of soy sauce.

Serve this immediately in an attractive pile next to your fish cakes and garnish with a decent wedge of lime.

I think that a really cold bottle of Thai beer goes well with this as it has a very dry finish to it, helping with the strong coriander and chilli combination.

*Bon appetit!*

(Don't forget you can access all Joel's recipes at: [www.chefs-corner.co.uk](http://www.chefs-corner.co.uk))

## Tracing the Starrs through 200 years

DOCTOR John Starr from Reading has been researching his family tree and has written to us asking if LN readers might be interested to know the story he has uncovered.

The early 1800s had seen the birth of William Star(r), Dr Starr's great great grandfather. William, like his father Petit, grandfather Henry and great grandfather Henry S, was born in Linton.

He married Maria Marsh from nearby Pampisford in 1829 and they had eight children: Mary Anne, who was born in 1829 and bore illegitimate twins in 1852, Harriet, born in 1832 with whom Maria went to live when widowed, Henry 1 (died 1835), Henry 2 (born 1835), William (born 1839), Martha (born 1841), John, my great grandfather (born 1845) and James (born 1849).

Great great grandfather William was an agricultural labourer, so when I was looking for his death certificate (he had died between the 1871 and 1881 censuses) I assumed he had died on his native Linton soil. However, the half-dozen William Starr deaths in that period had all occurred in London.

The only one that seemed promising was of a labourer aged 71, who died on 29 February 1874 at 4, British Cottages, Stratford, London. Informant: M Starr. But what was William doing in West Ham?

I had put a short family tree on the Genes Reunited web page and a Bob Starr responded. He was Henry's great grandson, my third cousin. He told me that in February 1874, Henry suffered a

horrific railway accident in which his legs were severed.

He was 38 with a wife, Jane, a three-year-old daughter and a year-old son. He had died on 13<sup>th</sup> February at 4, British Cottages.

So it would seem that William, ailing but determined to attend his son's funeral, had himself succumbed to pneumonia a few days after Henry's death. The M Starr informant was, therefore, his wife Maria.

Henry and his father William were laid to rest in early March 1874 in the same plot in West Ham cemetery. But the tragedy did not finish there.

James would have mourned at the graveside along with brothers John and William, and perhaps the sisters from Linton.

In October 1874, James suffered a similar accident (as reported in the GER accident reports for the year) and was buried with his brother and father.

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# A head teacher says farewell

THIS has been an exceptionally busy year at Linton Heights.

As soon as I announced my retirement, the governors started scurrying around for my successor.

Coupled with this, several other staff members decided to move on: Mr Atkinson, Mr Corpe and Mrs Williams (class teachers) and Mr Robinson (gardener).

The school community now eagerly awaits the arrival of Mrs Kenzie, Miss Shaffery, Mrs Smelik and Miss Wise as class teachers and, of course, the appointment of our current deputy, Miss Malone, as the new headteacher (the first female head since the school started in 1975).

It has therefore been a particularly significant year for me in terms of school events, because I won't be here to enjoy them in the future.

The children made costumed visits to historical recreation days at Kentwell Hall (16<sup>th</sup> century), Wimpole Hall (19<sup>th</sup> century) and Duxford airfield (20<sup>th</sup> century).

They visited Stibbington for nature study and the Year 6 leavers spent a week at Caythorpe Hall doing daredevil feats on high ropes and the climbing tower.

Heights' pupils continued their entertaining performances at Christmas and at the end of the summer term.

We also took part in the Year 5 Maths challenge, the final of which was held in the Air-space hangar at Duxford. Our team of four intrepid mathematicians came second out of 80 Cambridgeshire primary schools.

The school has had a great year and I will be taking many happy memories with me into retirement. Long live the Heights!

And thank you, people of Linton, for your support during the past 10 years.

Rod Halls, Head of Linton Heights junior school



Head for heights: Carolyn and Mark Thackstone have set themselves a 12-hour deadline

## Couple's peak challenge

AT the end of August, Carolyn and Mark Thackstone will be doing the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge, which is one of the oldest established walks in the UK.

The challenge is a 24-mile walk and has 1500 metres of ascent (and descent). The peaks are Pen-y-ghent 694m (2277ft), Wharfedale 736m (2415ft) and Ingleborough 723m (2372ft)

It is their personal aim to complete the 24 miles within 12 hours, as is tradition, though the actual time taken will depend on weather conditions and how often they get lost.

Carolyn says she and Mark are doing this challenge in aid of the Hospice at Home service, which is at present wholly

funded by the Arthur Rank Hospice. This is an invaluable service that provides palliative and terminal care to patients and their families at home.

It is provided for adults over 18 who are suffering from advanced, progressive and life-limiting illnesses and also provides care and support for their families.

Formerly the Hospice at Home service was funded by an equal partnership between the NHS, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

In March 2007, NHS and Marie Curie funding was withdrawn and the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity took the decision to try to safeguard the

future of this vital service and provide it with the stability and security it needs.

The £240,000 it now costs to continue the Hospice at Home service is over and above the £900,000 needed to fulfil other commitments at Arthur Rank House.

This includes funding the Day Hospice, several staff posts in the in-patient unit, all aspects of volunteering and other day-to-day running expenses. This service needs to continue!

To sponsor them, please contact Carolyn or Mark on 897982, the Arthur Rank hospice fundraising team on 723115 or go to their website <http://www.justgiving.com/carolynmarkthackstone>

## A year in the life of the infant school

WHERE has the last year gone? To think that this time 12 months ago I was thinking about joining a school and the challenges that would bring ...

I have been overwhelmed by the welcome and support I have received from the infant school and local community, so thank you to everyone for this.

So much has happened during the school year ... as you may recall we started the year as pirates, transformed to mon-

sters and visited a few countries in between.

We met the inspectors who rated us outstanding, which was down to the dedication and hard work of the whole team. Our aim over the year has been to engage and excite children in their learning.

When the governors interviewed children from the school, they enjoyed the dress-up days in particular. So guess what? More of these will follow

next year!

Sadly, we have said goodbye to several members of staff who will all be greatly missed, but in particular I would like to mention Mrs Maddox.

Hilary has worked at the school for 19 years and has decided to retire. She has been an inspirational teacher to many children over the years and we wish her much happiness in her retirement.

Louise Clark

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### POT POURRI (43)

## Who is in credit?

AT the end of term, three students (a,b,c) were discussing how much they had left in their accounts. When all three accounts were added together, it came to just £1. If the three accounts are expressed as an equation (with 35, 55, 77 being common factors)  $35a + 55b + 77c$ , which of the students, a, b, or c was in credit and by how much?

**Solution to No.42 - What distance?**

The cars are 19 miles apart.

Urania

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Steam rally set to be best yet

THIS year's Haddenham Steam Rally on Saturday and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September is the 35<sup>th</sup> at Haddenham, raising money for local causes and promising to be the biggest yet. We have a wide range of attractions including the annual heavy horse show on Sunday. This year we are celebrating 21 years of heavy horse shows at the event.

Full size and model steam engines will also be on display, along with vintage vehicles of all types, stationary engines, bygones, crafts, trade stalls, working demonstrations, entertainment and a funfair featuring Rule's Steam Gallopers, which were built in 1893.

Returning this year, we have the Wall of Death show, presented by Ken Fox and as seen on BBC1's Ident, plus the Up and Over motorbike display team on both days. On Sunday we are delighted to present The Wurzels, who will open the event and perform in the afternoon. Gates open at 10am on both days.

More details can be found on [www.haddenhamrally.com](http://www.haddenhamrally.com)

## Join the ladies' netball team

FANCY a chance to play netball again and keep fit at the same time? Linton ladies' netball team is looking for newcomers of all abilities to train with them on a Monday night from 7.15pm-8.30pm at Linton village college sports centre, starting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September. For more information, please contact Bridget on 892299 or email [bridget\\_savill@hotmail.com](mailto:bridget_savill@hotmail.com)

## Why not make a difference

CAMBRIDGE Mencap is seeking volunteers to support a child or young person with a learning disability. You could support someone to play games, enjoy arts and crafts, play in the park, go swimming, or just watch a DVD in their home.

Your support could help the young person develop their social skills, interests, independence and self-confidence, while also providing valuable respite time for parents and carers. If you could spare a few hours one evening a month, you could be doing something new or something you already do and enjoy, while making a big difference to a young person's, and a family's, life.

Interested? Find out more by contacting Robert Wallace, volunteers' support co-ordinator on 883140.

## Pick up a book and take part

LAST month, the Linton News ran an article about the UK's biggest reading initiative encouraging children to take part in the Team Read challenge at their local library. There is still time to take up this challenge. The Team Read ceremony and presentations take place from 10am-12noon on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September; when the children who have completed the challenge will receive their medals and certificates.

# Finally, an away day at historic Wimpole Hall



Imposing: the 18<sup>th</sup> century Wimpole Hall is one of largest country houses in the county

Picture by Jo Leggo

FINALLY, the Camera club made it to Wimpole Hall, previous attempts having been cancelled because of the weather. Wimpole Hall is one of the largest country houses in Cambridgeshire and now belongs to the National Trust. We had an interesting morning. We saw food being cooked as it was in Tudor times and another group making felt from local sheep's wool. A group of archaeologists was busy excavating the site of an old garden, which had a fountain.

We were also trying out a new way of showing panora-

mas. This involves taking lots of shots of a building or view at many different angles and then combining these to make an interesting picture.

We were shown this technique, called panography, on one of our Monday evening in-house sessions. I am unable to produce my attempt here as the resulting file was too large, but if you would like to come along to our first Monday in the month session at the Cathodeon centre we will share our attempts to do this with you.

The next session will be on 4<sup>th</sup> August and we are hav-

ing some input on how to use Photoshop. There is always time to show our latest photos and have a chat about how to improve our picture taking.

The next away day will be Notting Hill Carnival Caribbean extravaganza on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August. Meet at Coles Lane car park at 8.30am (time may change).

For further information, please visit our website at [www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk](http://www.lintoncameraclub.org.uk) or telephone Roger Lapwood on 891104 or Tracey Wilson on 891988.

Jo Leggo

# Tom retires leaving an entrepreneurial legacy

RETIRING from LVC at the end of the summer term, Tom Minnock has devoted 18 years to the education of students in the Linton area. During this time, he has built up an enviable record of success and will, no doubt, be long remembered by his peers in the world of secondary education, the numerous business partners whose help he enlisted, the pupils he nurtured and, in many cases, their parents.

Tom came into education from a successful career in engineering design and management and initially taught CDT (craft, design and technology) at the college.

His passionate belief in the worth of engineering to the nation and the career prospects it could offer caused him to seek better ways of teaching it.

His belief that all students have some potential has led to a progressive change of approach from pure manufacturing (as represented by CDT) to considering the whole business, regardless of its nature, and finally into the enterprise culture – seeking and starting new, profitable, ventures.

His infectious enthusiasm helped him to establish a wide circle of friends drawn from numerous local businesses – his Business Support Group.



Well done, sir: Tom Minnock proudly shows off his award  
Picture courtesy S'EEN

This group has been used to great effect to show his students how industry operates, assess the skills both industry and students require for the future, and finally to test the ability and motivation of the students to become 21<sup>st</sup> century entrepreneurs.

He is well recognised as the inspiration and prime mover of the Schools' Enterprise Education Network (S'EEN) in Cambridgeshire and the South East and his department is a national centre of excellence in enterprise

Many of LN readers will perhaps remember Tom's 'Mini Enterprise' projects, in which teams of students of all abilities and interests, were

asked to find and research ideas for saleable products, estimate the costs involved, design and make the products, sell them and finally analyse their results.

Not all projects were technical or financial successes, but the majority of participants thoroughly enjoyed the experience and came to appreciate the risks involved and skills required in starting a successful enterprise.

Tom bows out with the Teaching Award for Enterprise in the East of England, with the national finals to follow in October. Congratulations, may you enjoy a long and happy retirement.

LNT

## Your chance to try physical freedom

COUNTY Health and Fitness event Physical Freedom is being held on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at Chilford Hall in Linton, from 10am-4pm. The event is free for everyone to attend and we are hoping that many will begin to follow 'the Government strategy to help everyone lead healthier lives'.

Stagecoach, one of the sponsors, is offering complimentary transport to and from Cambridge to Chilford Hall.

There seems to be a lot of talk about fitness at the moment, but for many individuals there appears to be apprehension in trying the unknown. This event will allow for the wary person or family to take a look at and join in with a multitude of different physical and relaxing ways to enjoy a healthy lifestyle, with the hopeful outcome of a fitter Britain.

Everyone will be able to take something away from the event to improve their life.

'Physical Freedom' is aiming to promote physical fitness, healthy eating and the maintenance of healthy lives and is open to all ages from young children to adults of all abilities in the county.

We hope to demonstrate ideas and ways to enjoy physical fitness with displays such as martial arts, modern dance, tai chi, yoga and many more, along with healthy eating, product talks and demonstrations and motivational speakers.

We will also be promoting health/fitness ideas and related companies to enable visitors to gather information on subjects such as nutrition, healthy eating, slimming, fitness such as gym and other club memberships.

For further information please contact:  
Michelle Plowman, 07800 553315  
or e-mail [michelle@physicalfreedom.co.uk](mailto:michelle@physicalfreedom.co.uk)



## A trophy for bowls club duo

DEREK DIMMOCK was a long-time member of Linton Granta bowls club and a former president.

He is commemorated with the Dimmock trophy, presented annually for an inter-club competition.

This year, it was won by Trish Agnew and Bryan Beavis, pictured on the left with their plaques and the trophy.

Picture by Sam Agnew

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# Farewell, Father Mark

FATHER Mark's last service in Linton will be at 9.45 am on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August.

"It will be a celebration of the Eucharist, and we expect the church to be full for this his farewell service," said Pam Richardson, one of the churchwardens. "Our congregation will be joined by those from Horseheath, Shudy Camps, Castle Camps, and Bartlow. Father Mark has been our rector, and the team rector for the five parishes, for nearly six years."

Father Mark came to Linton in late 2002. He soon became a familiar figure in Linton, known for his height, his striking presence and the variety of his hats!

In the pulpit Mark could be a powerful preacher. He encouraged people new to faith, or returning to it, to join Alpha courses. Babies brought for baptism were welcomed.

He introduced a monthly new worship service for young people looking for a more lively style of worship while the Sunday evening contemplative services have appealed to others. A youth worker has just been appointed. Mark has also sought to strengthen the lay leadership and ministry in the church. Our new pavilion is open for social events and meetings.

Our peace and social justice dinners have benefited from Mark's wide circle



Father Mark: worshippers enjoyed his powerful sermons

of friends: Bruce Kent and his wife spoke on the peace movement, and, at another time, Lord Ramsbotham on prisons.

Father Mark, who recently celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination, will be moving to a new form of ministry. He will be lecturing at an episcopal training col-

lege in the US, and will build up his links with the church in South India. A published author, we may expect further books from his pen.

After Father Mark's departure, the diocese and the five parishes will be working together to find and appoint a successor.

Elizabeth Bray 890434

## Linton Granta playgroup needs you!

LINTON Granta playgroup would like to say goodbye and good luck to all the children and families leaving us to start "big school" in September. It has been an amazing year, which has been down to a dedicated team. Also a big thank you to the committee.

Several members are leaving, so thanks for your efforts over the years. A big thank you goes to Kate, our chair, who is also leaving. So, new mums and dads starting playgroup or toddlers (or any existing ones), we need you to help run playgroup and toddlers.

We are a charity and all of our committee members are voluntary and without them the playgroup cannot exist. Positions vacant are chair, deputy chair, secretary, admissions officer, fundraisers, press and publicity and lots of general helpers.

The AGM is at 8pm on 7<sup>th</sup> October at the playgroup Portacabin, everyone is welcome. For more information on any of the positions,

please contact Kate Kell on 894970.

Playgroup reopens on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and toddlers first session is on the 7<sup>th</sup> October and will continue to run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11.30am during term time. We are meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August for a 'Play in the Park' at the recreation ground between 11-1pm. Everyone is welcome and bring a picnic (fair weather only).

Ruth Tysoe

### Make a fireworks date

THE 19<sup>th</sup> Linton fireworks display will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November on Camping Close behind the infants school. Another evening of fun and spectacle is being planned - so make it a date in your diary. For further information or to volunteer to help, please contact Alasdair Forbes (event director) on 01799 584699, or Alison Collison on 894346.

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## LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams

### A tale of 11 mice ... or was it 12?

IT'S been an unprecedented month for the good folk of Linton rescuing injured or abandoned wildlife. Many of you have taken on the task of caring and rehabilitating the unfortunate and often orphaned creatures. When you find a young bird seemingly abandoned, watch over it for an hour or so before making a decision to intervene. It may be a fledgling and a parent may already be keeping a close eye.

Sometimes it seems an impossible role, as in the case of the 11 newly born mice brought to me last month.

Yet granted as we are the stewardship of earth, the well-being of these animals is often in our hands. Ironically their suffering is caused in most cases by some form of human intervention. Still, with a bottle of baby milk, a pot of yoghurt and a fine paintbrush I was able to drip-feed them every few hours for 10 days.

Watching them grow, opening their eyes to see the world with beautiful coats blossoming as they huddled together was a fascinating experience. Keeping track on which ones had been fed in the tiny box was difficult, and sadly the smallest one died. Their development was rapid and they soon feasted on breakfast cereals and fruit.

Clearly with unique personalities and talents, one demonstrated a natural dexterity in spinning raisins in her tiny hands. Offering these fellows as future pets was met with

shrieks and shivers and so, with no takers, it was time for the mice to be returned to the wild. Now remember, I was given 11 and one died but when releasing them into the woods, I again counted 11! Stuffing their home-made nest into the hollow of a tree, warning them

birds in my life, I note many develop abnormalities not evident to we humans until they reach adulthood. These birds kept alive artificially are disadvantaged in the wild, rarely surviving long and becoming food for the crows.

However, please do not give up trying as there are many success stories too. Our local vet recently went beyond the call of duty in operating on a jackdaw with a badly smashed wing. Scott, named by two small boys, is doing very well and has a quality life, albeit in relative captivity, enjoying a diet of chicken, fruit and, dare I say it, mice. Recently I received a swift with a missing tail who stayed only a few days, fed on mealworm and water. He had a continuous desire to climb ever higher and finally made an unplanned leap into the big blue sky seemingly without need for the tail.

Late at night while feeding Scott in my garden shed, someone was scrubbing wood. Suddenly from underneath the floorboards appeared a real old fellow of a hedgehog with a grey skirt of fur. He snorted as I offered the spiny spectacle a plate of cat food, but decided to sit beside me and dine on some of Scott's roast chicken.

Yes, we are honoured as stewards, but it's an arduous and sometimes heartbreaking role, where the ultimate custodial hand of nature often answers our burning ethical questions on survival.



of the big bad buzzards, I felt my brief role as a mouse foster parent was well done. Oh, and this lot didn't like cheese but where did the 12<sup>th</sup> mouse come from?

It is remarkable what we can achieve with a little patience and warmth. Baby birds found abandoned are often not so without reason. It sounds cruel but having raised hundreds of

## Find out about the digital revolution

ARE you finding that technology is taking over your life? Everything is going digital and the BBC and other media are offering more and more information on the internet.

You probably know that you can save money by buying goods on the internet but are you afraid to try? Have you not yet sent a text on a mobile phone? Do you wish there was someone with patience to show you how?

In 2000, Derek Birch started what is now called Linton IT club to help older members of

the community tackle computers and e-mail. The club is still active on Tuesday evenings and volunteers provide help with computers. Advice also covers all things digital from satnavs to cameras.

The club welcomes all adults who glaze over when the word digital is mentioned and also those who are comfortable with computers and modern technology, but have a technical problem that they would like to talk over with like-minded members. There is no charge for membership.

We have access to the library computer suite and we have our own computers with Windows 98, XP and Vista, so we may have seen your problem before.

However, we certainly don't claim to know everything, so we may have to refer you to other sources of help. But please give us a try. We meet every Tuesday between from 7pm-9pm in the library at the Cathodeon Centre. For further information, please contact me

Mike Crofts 893619

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# The Derbyshire Post

BY the time you read this I will be in South Africa with three other members of staff and 15 students from the college. We will be staying in Soshanguve township by night with our host families and working at the school, Boepathuse Secondary, by day. This is the first time that I have visited our link school and I go with mixed feelings. I am very excited to meet up once more with the friends made as I hosted visiting teachers for the past two years, but I am also keyed up with adrenaline.

The responsibility of taking young people into a township to live a life far removed from their own is a significant one and matches any I've had in my career so far. Our mission this time is to make the link a 'live' one by bringing the worldwide web to the school. We have taken with us 30 mini laptops and a server.

The school has set up a broadband connection, which we will pay for, and our students have familiarised themselves with the equipment so that they can teach their South African counterparts how to use them. Once they connect, the first messages they read will be welcome ones from Linton village college.

The internet connection will make such a difference to the link - it will enable us to keep in email contact and develop 'e' pen pals. It will also mean that we can send blogs home when we are out there.

From that moment onwards, of course, the internet will open up education and opportunities in a new way to the learners and educators at the school.

Over the past 10 years, our fund-raising has enabled us to provide a roof over the school's assembly area, a technology building, school equipment and a feeding scheme. This internet provision has the potential to be the greatest gift we have managed so far.

I will let you know once I have returned how we got on.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

## In the pink: best rosé at Chilford

**CAMBRIDGRSHIRE'S** award-winning *Chilford Hall vineyard in Linton* has been presented with the *Founder's trophy and a silver medal for their Chilford rosé 2007 wine at this year's East Anglian Wine Growers Association awards.*

*With two bronze medals for their Chilford sparkling white 2003 and Chilford medium dry 2007, Chilford was given two highly commendeds for their sparkling rosé 2003 and dry white 2007.*

*The awards ceremony was hosted by Chilford Hall in July and was attended by more than 20 members and associate members of the East Anglian Wine Growers Association. More than 50 East Anglian wines were judged on a points system by a panel of five judges, including two masters of wine, of which there are only 314 in the world.*

*UK wine growers were hit hard by bad weather during the flowering period last year and this meant that the vintage yield was lower than expected and different grape varieties were able to shine through in this year's competition.*

*The Founder's trophy, awarded for East Anglia's best red and rosé wine, was presented to Mark Barnes, wine maker at Chilford Hall and was awarded jointly to Sandyford Vineyard*



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## The Way We Were

by Garth Collard

### Centuries of mayhem at the Linton fair

READERS passing the Tandoori restaurant in the Bartlow Road have probably noticed that a new road sign has appeared called Pedlars Yard. The parish council asked me to suggest possible names for the new terrace houses built behind the shops and they selected Pedlars Yard. Why that name?

The former four-acre Lamb Fair Close to the rear of Emson's farmhouse (next to the paper shop) in the Bartlow Road was once the location of an annual three-day lamb and pedlars' fair held from 19-21 July. Simon de Furneaux, the lord of the manor of Barham, was anxious to increase his wealth and influence in Linton, and his opportunity came when he accompanied Edward I on his conquest of North Wales in 1281.

At Rhuddlan castle on 15<sup>th</sup> November, he was granted a charter by the king allowing him to hold a weekly Friday market and three-day fair in his part of Linton. The new fair was primarily for selling sheep, lambs, cattle and horses but there was also a general or pedlars' fair which consisted of booths and tents selling a range of goods.

The Barham market and fair had disappeared by the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, but the fair was revived in 1664 by John Millicent, the



Houses in Pedlars Yard, once the site of a 16<sup>th</sup> century fair

Picture by Garth Collard

current lord of the Barham manors. He obtained a fresh charter from the newly restored monarch Charles II. Millicent was a staunch royalist and had suffered severe financial hardship during the civil war. The original medieval fairs from 1281 had been held on land which is now Dolphin Close on the Heights estate, but Millicent moved his revived fair to Lamb Fair Close in the Bartlow Road.

The Barham manor fair lasted until 1878. The Barham lords collected a 4d fee for each animal sold and at its peak in 1861 over 800 sheep and lambs were disposed of. A fee of four old pence per animal sold does

not seem to be very much but it brought in £13 which would have been sufficient to rent three Linton cottages for a whole year.

However, the pedlars' fair was a source of constant friction. It seemed to attract outsiders regarded by the authorities as "the lowest of the low." Stallholders at the pedlars' fair often ignored the regulations about where booths could be placed and this upset local residents. In 1820 complaints were made about stalls set up illegally on the main highway, and proper spaces were allocated for booths and stalls at the upper end of the close.

Thefts, robbery, drunkenness and assaults were commonplace at the fair. Nothing really changes! In 1842 three men from Huntingdon, who were working in Abington, severely assaulted a local Linton labourer when he resisted their attempt to rob him at the fair. They were sentenced to three months' hard labour. In 1849 the press reported that the fair was marred by a number of petty robberies and all the thieves escaped. In 1873, a 27-year-old tramp called Jonah Smith stole a coat worth 15/- (75p) and was given a one-year jail sentence with hard labour.

The gentry in the village despaired of ever improving the behaviour of the general public. Fortunately for them, farmers now preferred to sell their sheep and lambs at farm auctions, so revenues collected at the fair were considerably reduced. Pembroke College Cambridge, the owners of the Barham estates after 1807 did not object when the new Linton vicar, the Rev Henry Hall inaugurated the Linton Flower Show and Sports in 1877 to replace the old fair. He was determined to improve working class morals and involve them in more dignified activities.

The fair was officially abolished in February, 1878.

*in Little Sampford for their red wine.*

*Winning the Founder's trophy is particularly special to Chilford Hall vineyard, as it was commissioned and donated to the association several years ago by wine enthusiast and entrepreneur Sam Alper, the late owner of Chilford Hall.*

*Mark Barnes, wine maker at Chilford Hall said: "We are very pleased to be joint winners of the Founder's trophy; rosé wines are our speciality, and we are looking forward to a good yield in October.*

*"Chilford's first red wine will be available over the next 12-18 months and so we hope to enter our wines in both rosé and red award categories next year."*

*For further information on Chilford wines, vineyard tours and the on-site wine shop and café, please visit [www.chilford-hall.co.uk](http://www.chilford-hall.co.uk)*

**Chilford Hall owner Fiona Alper and wine maker Mark Barnes with the Founder's trophy**



Picture supplied by Chilford Hall

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**THE LINTON NEWS**  
 Next Publication Date 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008  
**DEADLINES for**  
**ADVERTS Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August**  
**NEWS ITEMS Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

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# Parish Council Matters

## Drowning in a tide of noise

Parish Council Matters is written, edited and published by the Parish Council with the support of the Linton News Team.

WEDNESDAY. Another hectic day, nightmare traffic, weary. Then I get near to Linton and my heart lifts – I hear St Mary’s church bells! They signify that I am home, back where I want to be, and English village life. But not all sounds are so pleasant, and not everyone appreciates the bells as much as I do.

Noise is intrinsic to modern living; the rumble of traffic, aircraft overhead, tinny iPods leaking noise, muzak – it so prevalent that we take it as unavoidable, a nuisance. But unwanted noise is more than a nuisance; it can destroy health and even kill. It has the same effect as stress, keeping the body on constant alert, resulting in cardiovascular problems, increased blood pressure, and agitation. Increasing numbers of heart attacks and strokes have been blamed (by *THE WHO*) on noise pollution, and insidious chronic noise pollution clearly affects quality of life. Low frequency sound, produced by machinery, engines, wind turbines, etc, can lead to Vascular Acoustic Disease, with subsequent damage to the vital organs and soft tissues. Noise is dangerous, lethal.

Deafness and loss of hearing is increasing, particularly in younger people (I see worrying numbers of young people in the audiology clinics I visit as part of one of my studies). A, like, hearing aid, will soon be a must for the headphone generation, who play their iPods, and other music, at damaging levels. The intensity of noise at concerts, discos and in cars is also noted as the cause of

hearing loss. It used to be pneumatic drills, manufacturing machinery, and industrial tools in the workplace that led to deafness, but here the Health and Safety regulations have had some of their few beneficial effects. That, and the loss of much of our heavy industry – but that is grist for another mill!

At a local level, how many times have you had to brake sharply as someone walks in front of your car, iPod or mobile glued to the ear, totally oblivious to your presence or the danger? Or have greeted someone and been unheard? This is affecting the social interaction vital to village life, particularly that between generations. No wonder we don’t understand each other... we don’t talk! We also do not value our own hearing – such a precious asset.

Linton is particularly prone to the effects of noise, as we are in a river valley – sound is amplified, and you cannot predict where it will spread. Last year I was particularly affected by the noise of the grain coolers at Camgrain, and tried to find the extent of the nuisance – most of the village seemed able to hear them, but those along the river, and in the higher parts of the village appeared to be worst affected.

These driers were emitting noise to their legal limit, (they are allowed, by decision of South Cambs ten years ago, to emit 38dB as measured at two fixed points in the village) but the incessant rumble was upsetting great numbers of people. How many nights of disturbed sleep did you have? How did that affect

your life? I know how it affected mine.

Noise on the recreation ground also spreads and is amplified along the valley, so that the gatherings of young people are quite plainly heard. A group of parish councillors, and others involved in youth matters, are trying to find the young people places to gather safely, act responsibly, in sites where noise (and other problems!) can be minimised. Strangely, the noise of the annual Fun Fair is better tolerated – but then that was here before I was!

As long ago as 1975, studies showed that reading skills of children in noisy classrooms lagged 3-4 months behind their peers in quieter rooms. Recently memory skills of children improved 25% after a Munich airport closed – matched by the deterioration of those living near the new airport. Quiet is needed to think, to learn, to be educated. But note how close our schools are to noisy roads... and think how much noisier they are likely to become with the expansion of Haverhill, the proposed “Eco” towns, and other developments.

Several years ago in Manchester, Sally Ward studied a group of children who were found not to be responding to the human voice. It was found that the children spent many hours each day in front of the television, surrounded by its noise. As a result, they did not recognise the sound of human voices, and could not understand language. How many more children have the TV as their babysitter, and lose the skill of hearing and understanding?

Or mainly hear our language spoken indistinctly and with poor grammar? Why should we expect correct spelling when words are not pronounced properly, innit?

Then we have the aircraft noise – commercial flights, helicopters and light aircraft pass overhead in increasing numbers. Proposed changes in flight paths and the probable expansion of Stansted threaten ever more traffic over Linton, with noise levels up to 60dB (remember, the dB scale is not linear but logarithmic – a steep curve, not a straight line). It is strange that the deep rumbling engines of the aircraft taking part in the Duxford air displays are nowhere near as intrusive as the whining commercial jets or the racket of helicopters. Perhaps that is due to the frequencies of the sound being more congenial to our ears, but also that without these aircraft, we might not be here to moan about all the other noise!

Will we ever hear bird-

song again? Will the birds even hear each other? This has a bearing on loss of species, particularly sparrows, who cannot hear their own mating calls. They can’t hear themselves above our racket. Their wing-tones should be respected, too...but this is an article for Darryl to write. And don’t start me on wind-chimes, supposedly soothing but actually just maddening noise disturbing tranquil gardens. In Ghana, similar items are known as “cursing chimes” (my Ashanti fails me here...), where every sound is a curse. Just think before you hang these up, are you blessing your neighbour or cursing them?

Even when shopping we are bombarded by muzak – it stops you thinking clearly and making sensible judgements on purchases. Charity shops are full of unwise purchases, bought under the influence of the din! It is noticeable that when there is quiet, shoppers talk, exchange views and

laugh. Then on comes the muzak, and the till queues are crammed with people trying to escape the racket. Of course it will be interpreted as muzak increasing the sales, but actually it is purchasers making their escape. Or am I just being grumpy? Just remember it is us grumps who have the disposable income....

Our life and health is under assault from this unwanted noise, and Linton is particularly under assault from the ever-increasing traffic on the A1307, the expansion of air traffic at Stansted, changes in flight paths, plans for yet more housing nearby, industrial development, the proposed windfarm – what next?

Why can’t we have a bit of peace and quiet... We might then start to think for ourselves and communicate, but would our Big Brother state approve? Sorry, what did you say...?

Councilor Enid Bald

### Linton Parish Council Website

<http://www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk/>

WE are pleased to announce that at last the Parish council website is up and running. The government has granted us a .gov web address which has taken a long time to secure.

To the right is the front page of the website and the June issue of The Linton News, Parish Council matters has a plan of the website.



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# Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

**ABBREVIATED Minutes of the meeting of Linton Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**

**Present: A Gore (Chair), Ms E Cornell (Vice Chair), Mrs E Bald, Dr B Cox, S Daly, R Hickford, T Krarup, J Linsdell, G Potter, Dr V Urwin Mrs S Parry (Clerk to the Council). Mrs K France (press) and three members of the public were also present.**

## Public Forum

Mr Rootes and Mr & Mrs O'Brien said they had met the architect acting for the Newdigate House developer to discuss revised plans. They still had concerns. Mr Rootes said parents were concerned about dangerous parking at the Infants' School. The Clerk agreed to contact the police and School.

## The Meeting

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gee and Hammett and from Cllr Rossiter, who was attending a meeting of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils on behalf of the Council.

## Declarations of Interests.

Various councillors declared relevant interests.

## Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008 were adopted. Under item 22, it was agreed to contact the police about parking on Symonds Lane. The minutes of the Planning committee meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 were noted.

## Reports from Co-ordinators:

**Open Spaces-** Cllr Gore asked if the viburnum to the left of the Swan Bridge sub station might be pruned.

**Recreation Ground-** Cllr Krarup reported that the bowling green hedge needed cutting: it was agreed that the Clerk write to the Bowls Club. The Clerk was authorised to instruct an alternative contractor if Mr Westlake could not investigate the drain by the main gate from Meadow Lane soon and to request Herald to cut back hard in September the Stantons Lane hedge from the Recreation Ground to the A1307.

**Cemetery -** Cllr Cornell reported that a willow tree had been cut back to allow passage for a horse drawn hearse.

**Rights of Way-** It was agreed to ask South Cambridgeshire District Council to arrange a suitable diversion if the footpath between Flaxfields and Symonds Lane was to be closed during the forthcoming redevelopment works.

**Churchyard -** Cllr Hickford had been approached by the Rector regarding lighting in the churchyard. Cllr Cox stated that had been previously considered but not pursued because of a conflict of opinion between authorities.

**A1307 -** Cllr Cornell reported that consultation into the improvement scheme at Alington Terrace near Horseheath had begun. The County Council had cut back a hedge impeding vision at the Bartlow crossroads. The pedestrian refuge in Abington was under investigation.

**Allotments -** It was agreed to meet with Mr Baalam.

## Payments

It was resolved that the payments listed be paid.

Discussion regarding National Air Traffic Service proposals for changes in air traffic control

A report had been circulated by Cllr Gore. It was agreed to write to NATs expressing concern about the lack of consultation or consideration of the option to create stacks over the sea and of the criteria used in the proposals.

## Correspondence received and for discussion

It was agreed to adopt Cllr Rossiter's draft as the Council's response to South Cambridgeshire District Council's Housing Futures Consultation

It was agreed to arrange a meeting with the County Council, the Village College and the Bowls Club regarding repairs to the bowling green

It was agreed to advise the Women's Institute that its request for a seat at the Swan Bridge had been declined over concerns that doing so would lead to anti-social behaviour.

It was agreed to invite the Linton Bookfest organisers to make a presentation to a future meeting.

It was agreed to invite the architect acting for the Newdigate House developer to a future Council meeting

It was agreed to write to Mr V Harris expressing the Council's appreciation of the fair's annual visit and to contact Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the overgrowing hedge at 18 Meadow Lane.

It was agreed to advise Mr Hill that the Council had no plans to provide a footpath to Hildersham as there were two existing routes, the footpath alongside the A1307 and Footpath 2 via the Clapper stile and Little Linton.

## Reports from Councillors (for information only)

Cllr Potter reported that the water pipe to the pavilion came from the connection to the Village College caretaker's house and ran directly between the two, so it was not necessary to dig up the recreation ground to joiners row to connect the drop-in centre, re reported that cars were being parked on the recreation ground as cars belonging to cricket players had been locked in the Village College car park. The Clerk offered to contact the Village College on behalf of the Cricket Club requesting a key. A quotation had been obtained for £550 to brick up the side door of the pavilion and said it was reported at the Football Club AGM that the annual cost to run the pavilion were £7,500 for the year 2007/08.

## Decision regarding appointment of Administrative Assistant (Confidential Item)

It was agreed that Mrs Anne Meeks be offered the position, subject to a three month probationary period at the salary recommended by the Staff Sub-committee

## LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton,  
Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: C. 891001

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Sue Parry  
Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

**Office hours : Monday 9am-12noon, &  
4-5.30pm, Tuesday-Friday 9am- 12noon  
Or by appointment**

Dates for full Council meetings:  
August 7<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
All meetings held at the Cathodeon Centre  
following the Public Forum commencing at 8pm

**ABBREVIATED Minutes of the meeting of Linton Parish Council held at the Cathodeon Centre on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**

**Present: A Gore (Chair), Ms E Cornell (Vice Chair), S Daly, B Hammett, R Hickford, Dr J Rossiter, Dr V Urwin. Mrs S Parry (Clerk to the Council). County & District Councillor J Batchelor, Mrs K France (Press) and 8 members of the public were also present.**

## Public Forum

Three Stop Linton Wind Farm members expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed wind farm on Linton.

## THE MEETING

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bald, Cox, Gee, Krarup, Linsdell & Potter and District Cllr Bear.

## Declaration of Interests

Various councillors declared relevant interests

## Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008 were adopted and the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008 noted.

## Land at rear of Newdigate House, 3 Horseheath Road.

Mr Slaymaker of Beechdale Homes was invited to outline alternative proposals for development of the land. The Public Forum was re-opened. Mr Rootes and Mr & Mrs O'Brien of Dolphin Close were content with the revised scheme. Jim Mulley, of Horseheath Road, was concerned that the access was dangerous. The Public Forum was closed.

A discussion between Mr Slaymaker and councillors took place. It was agreed that the Chair would prepare a summary of the discussion for circulation to councillors.

## Report from Police and consideration of Policing, Safety and Security issues.

PC Parkin had advised the Clerk that the Police Community Support Officers were patrolling the area around the Infants School at the beginning and end of the school day and Symonds Lane in connection with dangerous parking.

Cllrs Hickford and Daly hoped to attend the District Council's Traffic and Speeding Summit on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

## Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Batchelor referred to his e-mail regarding yellow lines at the Symonds Lane/Hillway junction and a Give Way feature at the junction for Paynes Meadow in Chalklands. Two members were in favour of seeking advice and costings from the County Council Highways Dept regarding yellow lines, two were opposed and two abstained. The Chair exercised his casting vote against the proposal. The Council agreed to seek advice and costings for the Give Way feature.

There had been a 'walk in' burglary at Crabtree Croft.

Concerns were again raised by councillors regarding the 'dips' in the High Street by the Church Lane turning.

Cllr Cornell asked Cllr Batchelor to oppose the County Council Network Monitoring Report in its current form as it did not include figures for the A1307.

## Report from District Councillors

Cllr Batchelor requested that all missing or damaged street signs be reported to him. He agreed to investigate the refusal of the planning application for the dental surgery.

## Written reports from Council representatives

The Parish Council agreed to adopt and submit the statement opposing the proposed Hanley Grange Eco-Town circulated by Cllr Rossiter.

## Payments

It was resolved that the payments listed be paid.

Correspondence received and for discussion

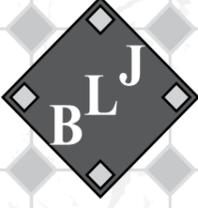
It was agreed not to commission inspections of the Skate Board from Clever Curves

It was agreed to defer discussion of Mr Smith's quotation for notice boards at Swan Bridge and improvements to the area to the next meeting.

It was agreed to give Dr Preston permission to enter the Recreation Ground in order to carry out work on her hedge and to ask her to cut back her hedge adjoining Meadow Lane.

Note: The full minutes and reports and documents referred to in the minutes can be inspected at the Council's offices.

ALL TILING WORK UNDERTAKEN



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